

ORLEANS COUNTY MONITOR

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CAPITAL PUNISHMENT AND CRIME

Twenty murders have been committed in Vermont within the past year and only one murderer recommended for execution. Isn't it true that Vermonters have become too sentimental over the protection of murderers and too indifferent to the protection of law-abiding citizens.—St. Johnsbury Caledonian.

No question about it neighbor. And with the discreditable record, to which the contemporary calls attention, before us, it is high time for Vermonters to begin to ignore the platitudes of the sentimentalists and consider this serious problem from the standpoint of law and order and the paramount rights of society.—Enosburg Standard.

The Monitor is glad to give what circulation it is possible to give to the above statements from two of its able and conservative contemporaries.

The crime wave in Vermont and elsewhere is surely too serious a matter to cause the letting down of the bars just now. In the course of a recent article by Theodore Roosevelt in the Outlook, on the miscarriage of justice, appears this quotation from a minister of the Gospel, "Whose life," says Roosevelt, "and preaching have illustrated in a peculiarly happy manner the combination of courage, common sense and ethical purpose." "It would seem as though this century and this country were smitten with sentimentality. You may have noted the anecdote of the late Mr. Everts in President White's autobiography. At a dinner in Washington the subject of capital punishment came up and Mr. Everts remarked that the American people had no regard for human life, except for that life which by due process of law had been declared forfeited to society."

Some advocates of the abolishment of capital punishment point to the law inflicting the death penalty and ask what deterrent effect the law has on crime as illustrated in our own state. They forget that all the laws on all the statute books in this country can have no good effect without enforcement. As the Springfield Republican well says: "Vermont has taken an advance step in the matter of the suppression of capital crimes, thanks to the integrity and stamina of the jurors in the Bosworth case. With the going forth of the word that there is short shrift for murderers in this state, there will be a marked falling off in the number of murders."

With Editor Howe presiding over the senate, Editor Bigelow, Editor Crockett and Editor McCuen as members of that body (?) Vermont will have some laws "what am" or the rest of the newspaper brethren will demand the reason why.

Orleans county usually has "some politics" and will presumably live up to its reputation next year. But Caledonia county promises to "go us one better" if one is to judge from recent announcements from various candidates from that county.

The first move of the new manager of the Montpelier Daily Journal was to remove all names from the sub-head of the paper. Are we to have a new mystery greater than the former? It was too much of a puzzle for anyone to solve, "who owned the Journal," and now we are face to face with, "who is the editor and who is the manager?" Verily the plot thickens. By the way, "who has got that button?"—Vergennes Vermonter.

Judging from expressions heard up this way that excellent paper would have a much greater influence and prestige if it were known what interests were back of it. What possible excuse can there be for keeping its ownership a secret if its designs and intentions are legitimate and above-board. From recent political utterances, it is not hard to make one safe, sure guess as to who does not own it.

Of late we have been reading of many cases of poisoning by potassium cyanide, the poison alleged to have been given in a recent famous murder case to which the papers gave much space. This is said to be the result of the power of suggestion. Yet the public demand and the papers go on supplying the sensational details and particulars of each new case. Thanks to the board of censors, moving picture films are becoming cleaner, more rational and of greater educational value yet how much more need is there for an authoritative censor of the press. In the press we have a penny medium which pictures with sketches and with words the minutest details of every shocking crime in the country and scatters it broadcast, each copy meeting the eyes of several persons perhaps. Must we go on reaping a harvest of crime excited by the "yellow journals" or shall we bring the utterances under some reasonable control as we have the films shown in the nickel and dime picture emporiums.

WHAT THE PAPERS SAY.

Travelling the Brattleboro Gait.

If all towns in Vermont could follow the lead of Brattleboro there would be no question of decadence or any fear of what the census figures would show. Beside the commercial buildings that have gone up there during the present year, running into several hundreds of thousands of dollars, 38 dwellings have been constructed. Where dwellings are going up will be found growth and prosperity. Let us all travel the Brattleboro gait.—Burlington Clipper.

Vermonters in Congress.

In the assignment of Senator Dillingham to the foreign relations committee Vermont gets one of the most desirable of all the senate committee assignments. With Congressman Foster the ranking republican in the House committee and Senator Dillingham a member of the Senate committee, Vermont is well represented in the conduct of our foreign affairs. Senator Page has been advanced recently to the chairmanship of the printing committee and it would not be strange if he were made chairman of the important committee on agriculture before long by Senator Proctor.—Montpelier Journal.

A Newspaper Reputation.

Says the Montpelier Argus: "The majority of voters know Mr. DeBoer. With entire candor we venture the assertion that the majority of voters do not know Mr. DeBoer and never will know him, whether he be elected governor or not. He is not that kind. He has a peculiarly large newspaper reputation within this state but his personal acquaintance among the people is not considerable. That he would make a competent governor we are pleased to believe. That he has the qualities that would make him a successful candidate for the nomination or an especially successful vote-getter if nominated, we very much doubt."—Windsor Journal.

Vermont's Problem.

Vermont's record of twenty murders last year is the full quota of our state in making up a percentage of homicides for the union quite beyond anything that any other civilized country can show. We hold human life cheap here in America, and the increase in the crime of murder is horrifying when we stop to think of it. Scores of causes figure toward it—the pace we live; the high strung temperament of our people; the influx of undesirable immigrants; the decadence of the native stock in many localities; the use of strong liquors, etc. We should add also the notoriety given him crimes in newspapers and otherwise; the uncertainty of discovery; the greater uncertainty of conviction and ultimate punishment of whatever form. Crime begets crime, murder begets murder. The more prevalent it becomes the more it will increase, by force of emulation and suggestion. A Society for the Prevention of Murder would sound badly enough in this Christian state and nation, but it would find plenty to do from the start.—Randolph Herald and News.

Why Pray for Legislature?

The St. Albans Messenger has been meditating on religion. The outcome is not conviction of sin, but merely a few questions. They follow.

"What Vermonter can tell why Vermont biennially pays two chaplains to conduct religious services during the session of the state legislature, when Article 3 of the Declaration of Rights reads:

"That all men have natural and inalienable right, to worship Almighty God, according to the dictates of their own conscience and understandings, as in their opinion shall be regulated by the word of God, and that no man ought to, or of right can be compelled to attend any religious worship, erect or supply any place of worship, or maintain any minister, contrary to the dictates of his conscience," etc.

"How is the state treasurer authorized to spend the money of A. B. and C, private citizens, to pay a legislative chaplain who preaches a religion they do not believe? How can the state under the national or its own constitution conduct any religious exercises whatever and do it lawfully?"

The St. Albans contemporary is an advocate of broad-minded, liberal views on all subjects and it must know that it is only the sectarian bigot who has a shiver when he hears the Bible read and a prayer offered by a man not of his denomination. No man with a soul as large as a pea bean will have a fit when any minister or priest, no matter what the denomination, leads in a simple devotional exercise. Then, too, the average Vermont legislator needs prayers as all good citizens know.—Bellows Falls Times.

Foley Kidney Pills

Just the right medicine for backache, rheumatism, Bright's disease and all urinary irregularities. G. H. Lessor, 40 Allen street, Burlington, Vt., says: "For the last several years I suffered with weak kidneys and bladder trouble. One day while having a particularly bad spell I was advised to try Foley Kidney Pills and I began taking them according to directions. After a short time the pain left my back, the action of my kidneys was free and natural and although this was some months ago I have not been bothered with kidney or bladder trouble since. I gladly recommend Foley Kidney Pills to all those who have kidney or bladder trouble." F. D. Pierce.

STATE NEWS.

To Rebuild Mountain Road.

A definite move to rebuild the mountain road to Killington peak, the second highest point in Vermont, was made at a meeting of the Rutland section of the Green Mountain club Wednesday night. M. E. Wheeler, who at present owns the hotel property, and a greater part of the land around the peak, offered to give \$500 provided the citizens raised a like amount.

Kent Goes Back to Hospital.

Fred Kent, a brother of Elroy Kent, who left the state hospital for the insane at Waterbury Tuesday morning of last week, reappeared shortly before 9 o'clock that night. He went to the door of the supervisor's office and knocked. He had been hiding all

day not far from the asylum and the deprivation of food, cold and rain discouraged his ambition for freedom and he returned to the hospital for shelter and rations.

Barnet Man Killed in Woods.

Orrin Morrill, aged 55 years, of Barnet, was killed Tuesday afternoon, Dec. 12, while chopping on the mountain between Barnet and East Barnet. He saw a falling tree coming in his direction and started to run, but caught his foot and fell. The tree struck him across the small of his back. A number of men working near ran to his assistance, but he lived only a few moments. On account of the distance it took an hour and a half before the authorities or physicians could reach him.

Water Powers on Deerfield River.

The New England Power company, a Massachusetts corporation with \$3,000,000 capital, is now building four developments on the Deerfield river, three near Shelburne Falls and one in Somerset. After the energy from these present developments has been disposed of, further developments will be made and it is expected by the company that the total development head on the river will be approximately 1000 feet, and that the total storage capacity on the upper waters will amount to 7,000,000,000 feet. When these developments are completed the river will be capable of generating approximately 240,000,000 kilowatt hours of primary power or about 120,000 horse power. Some of this power will be used by the Boston and Maine railroad to pull trains through Hoosac tunnel.

Deed of Large Power Transfer Filed.

A deed has been filed in the office of the Montpelier city clerk transferring two electric plants on Mad river in Moretown, transmission lines from them to Northfield, Waterbury, Waitsfield, and Montpelier, a steam plant in Montpelier and all the other property of the co-partnership of Moody & Almon to the Mad River Electric & Power Company, a corporation. The papers are signed by George H. Almon, of Montpelier and G. E. Moody of Waterbury and the price set up is \$175,000. This deed is dated August 26, 1911, and comes to Montpelier for record after being recorded in the other towns where the company owns property. Last fall the public service commission authorized an issue of bonds by the new company which is formed to take over the business, which has grown too large to be handled as a partnership.

State Grange Meeting.

The annual convention of the Vermont state grange was held in Montpelier three days last week. Several hundred delegates and visitors were present. The treasurer's report showed the financial department of the society to be in good condition. The total amount on hand, including the permanent fund, is \$14,016. The total membership of the grange in this state is 20,000 and the number is constantly increasing. Miss Bertha Terrill of the University of Vermont, Burlington, gave an interesting address at the session, taking the place of Congressman D. J. Foster, who could not be present. Williamstown Pomona Grange conferred the third and fourth degrees on a large class. The sixth degree, the highest in the subordinate granges, was exemplified, together with the unwritten work. The fifth degree was conferred on a class of 47 patrons. The ritual work was done by Washington Grange, No. 268. No officers were elected at this meeting, their terms being for two years.

Immense Transfer of Vermont Timber.

The Dock & Coal Company of Plattsburg, N. Y., has purchased the entire plant and stumpage owned by the firm of C. C. Putnam & Son, located in Middlesex, Worcester and Elmore for a price between \$300,000 and \$400,000, depending on the amount of timber on the stumpage which is estimated at 100,000,000 feet. All riparian rights are included. The members of the new firm are John F. O'Brien, collector of customs at Plattsburg and George C. Kellogg, general manager. Mr. O'Brien is also former secretary of state of New York. The plant at Putnamville includes a steam and water power with a combined capacity of 350 horse power. The sawmill has a capacity of 3,000,000 feet a year and this, together with the water power and dressing mill, will be doubled in output. The Worcester mill will be increased from 1,500,000 feet to 3,000,000 feet a year capacity. There are 12,500 acres of stumpage included, but the title to the land remains with the Putnams. It is agreed that no trees under 10 inches at butt shall be cut from this land and it is estimated that it will require 25 years to cut it over. The Putnams retain the right to saw the logs in the yard and clean up the sawed lumber, having until June 1 to do this. Possession of the property is to be given January 1. Christopher C. Putnam will retire from business. Ralph Putnam will continue in charge of the landed property and other business connections.

Short Winter Agricultural Courses.

The 17th annual winter courses will be offered at the College of Agriculture at Burlington this year beginning Tuesday, December 26th. They will be four in number, viz: four weeks in creamery and dairy management, Dec. 26-Jan. 20; five weeks in dairying and general agriculture, Jan. 22-Feb. 24; two weeks' course for women in Home Economics, Jan. 29-Feb. 10; Farmers' week, Jan. 19-24. Students may take any one, two or all of these courses. Morrill Hall, where the work is done, is well equipped with special appliances for teaching short course students. Nine instructors are employed, several especially for short course work. Instruction is carried out by means of lectures, text-books, practical work in the laboratory and in the creamery and in other ways.

Any Vermonter 18 years of age or older, of either sex, may be admitted, and without examinations. The fees are moderate:—\$5.00 per course for courses (1) and (2); \$2.50 for course (3). Farmers' week is free to all; books, suits, etc., cost about \$5.00 more. Graduates find places in charge of farms, herds, cow test associations, in creameries, ice cream

factories and the like; in particular there is a considerable demand, not fully met, for men to take charge of cow test associations. For further information, and for descriptive circular, address the Dean of the College of Agriculture, University of Vermont, Burlington, Vermont.

Alleged Bad Check Men under Arrest

A pair of alleged check workers and confidence men were captured red-handed at their work at St. Albans Thursday. The men are known as Fred E. Ducharme, formerly of Fairfield, who claims to have lived recently at Springfield, Vt., and K. C. Russell, late of Worcester, Mass. They arrived at St. Albans from Swanton on the 10:15 train in the morning, at once checked their grips for St. Johns, Que., and immediately started out to do the town. Russell went to the clothing store of Badger & Revoir on Lake street, where he got a suit valued at \$16 in payment for which he tendered a check for \$36 on the Second National Bank of Boston, drawn by "J. Hapgood" and made payable to "Albert Russell." Young Mr. Badger, who made the sale, told Russell that he did not have the money called for to make up the balance of the check, so Russell told him that that was all right and that he would call for the balance to-day.

A few minutes after the deal had gone through, Badger reached the conclusion that he had been cheated, and hunted up Chief Maloney and told him his troubles, besides giving him a description of his customer, which, as it turned out, did not fit him at all. Chief Maloney started out, however, looking for a suspicious acting man, and found that he had been at Harold Cohen's store, where, after inquiring for the proprietor and being told that he was out he presented to the clerk another check for about \$25, telling him to cash and take out \$2 that he owed the store. But the clerk was suspicious and would not come across. The men were finally located about noon, just as they came out of the St. Albans House, where Chief Maloney collared Russell after questioning him a minute, while Deputy Sheriff Alfred cornered Ducharme as he tried to sneak away. Both men protested innocence and insisted that a great mistake had been made in arresting them, but they were taken to the jail and searched, Ducharme having on him, it is said, the sum of \$36.56 and a number of bogus checks, while Russell produced \$43 and a number of pawn tickets on Worcester, Mass., shops. While the men were griled by the officers Russell claimed to be working for Ducharme, and later claimed that Ducharme had him completely under his control and could make him do anything he wanted. Ducharme claimed that he and Russell represented the Hapgood Mop company of Boston and insisted that everything was all straight and right. Following the trail of the men to Swanton, it was learned that they had been in Morrisville, where Russell was at one time employed, and where Russell got a check cashed for \$28.40. This check was cashed by H. P. Munson and was also on the Second National bank of Boston, signed by J. H. Hapgood and made payable to K. C. Russell. At Swanton, where they arrived Tuesday they got a check for \$27.65 cashed at the West Side inn. This was signed by "J. Hapley & Co." Ducharme then went to the Swanton Savings bank and sprung another for \$35, payable to himself and also signed by "J. Hapley & Co." which he got away with.

"Best on Earth"

This is the verdict of R. J. Howell, Tracy, O., who bought Foley's Honey and Tar Compound for his wife. Her case was worse: I have ever seen, and looked like a sure case of consumption. Her lungs were sore and she coughed almost incessantly and her voice was hoarse and weak. Foley's Honey and Tar Compound brought relief and less than a week she was effected a complete cure." F. D. Pierce.

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